

1st ENOSS

CONFERENCE

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# Dual Career & Well being The athlete's view

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• Dual Career coordinator Luxembourg Institute for High Performance in Sports

- Member of the NOC Athlete Commission
- Former Chemistry Lecturer and teacher
- 3-time Olympic athlete (2008, 2012, 2016)
- European Championship finalist, World Championship semi-finalist



**Dual career** in sport is defined as "the successful combination of education, training or work with sport to enable an individual to reach his or her full potential in life."

European Commission (2015)



#### **Holistic Perspective**

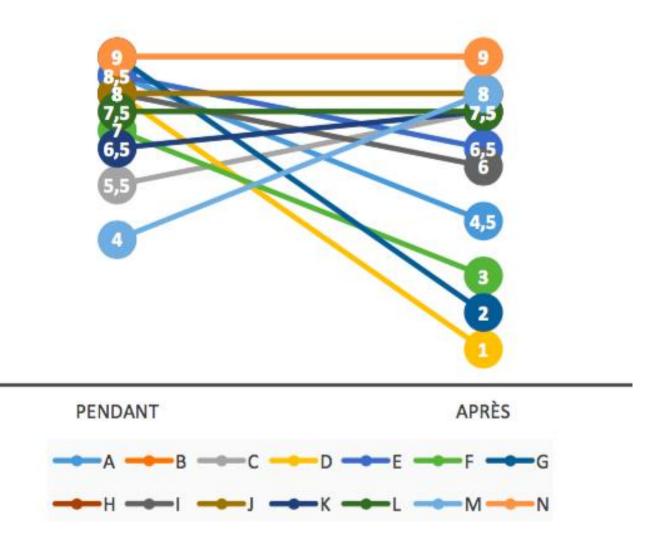
	Development			Elite		Post-career	Challenges – Athlete's view
Age	to 11 years 12	13 14 15 16 17 18	19 20	21 22 23 24	25 26 27 28	29 30 31 32 33 34 35	
Athletic development	I Initiation I Develonment		t	Mastery		Discontinuation	Early vs late athletic/biological development – overtraining - team selections, etc.
Psychological development	Childhood	Adolescence		(Young) Adulthood			Performance stress - Identity development – autonomy, etc.
Psycho-social development	Parents, Siblings, Peers, Coach Peers Parents		h,	, Partner, Coach		Family, Employer	Parental pressure – loss of family support - restricted peer network – lack of stable relationships
Academic/ vocational development	Primary school	Secondary school	econdary school		Vocational training, Profession		Dual Career School/Study – Elite Sport Dual Career Work – Elite Sport End of career transition

cf. sport-psychology model Wylleman&Lavallee

# The evolution of the athlete's well-being

»On a scale of 0-10, how much would you put your selfperceived well being **during** and **after** your sport career? »

cf. Study by University Louvain (B) on retired Luxembourgish Olympic athletes 2000-2016





## **50%**

of athletes do not feel in control of their lives 2 years after the end of their sports career

cf. Professional Players Association 2018

#### Main reasons :

- no plan B for after sporting career
- involuntary retirement, due to injury, non selection, etc.
- loss of routine and change in body composition

"Everything came at once, you're no longer a professional athlete, you no longer have an athletic identity, but who are you? Your identity is limited to your name, whereas before you were popular, and everyone knew who you were. It is not only an identity crisis, but also a life crisis"

Anonymous Luxembourgish Olympic athlete

cf. Study by University Louvain (B) on retired Luxembourgish Olympic athletes 2000-2016

# Dual Career - MORE THAN JUST AN ATHLETE

# BETTER TODAY BETTER TOMORROW

#### Personal

A broad sense of purpose
Personality development
Greater life satisfaction
Intellectual stimulation
Less risk of mental problems

#### Sport

Prophylaxis of injuries
Increased stability in times of crisis
Strengthening concentration
Less pressure (doping)
Commitment to sport

#### Successful future

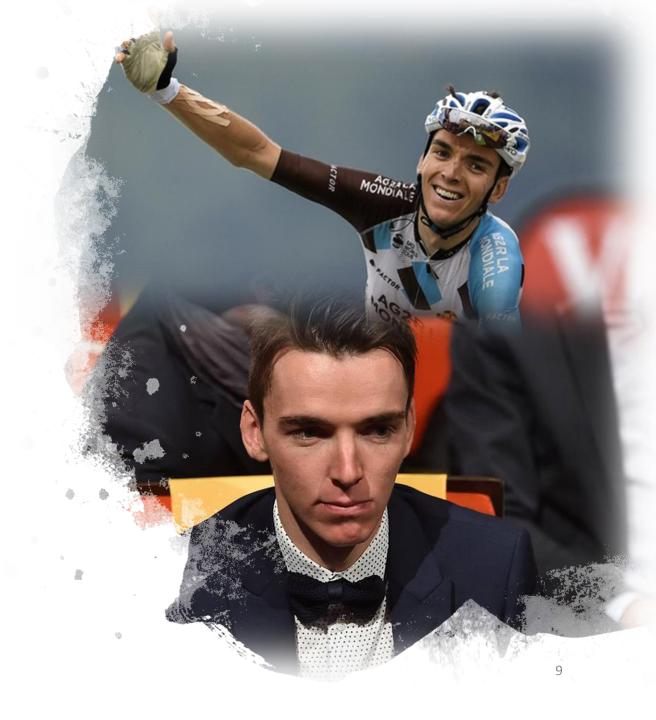
Building social networks
Acquisition of transferable skills
An easier transition to a professional career
Increased employability
Financial protection

#### **Dual Career and Well being**

"There was never any question of sacrificing studies for the benefit of cycling. I even experienced a shock when I finished my studies. At first, I struggled with the loss of social bonds, such as if I had lost a part of my personality."

#### Romain Bardet

2<sup>nd</sup> Tour de France 2016 3<sup>rd</sup> Tour de France 2017



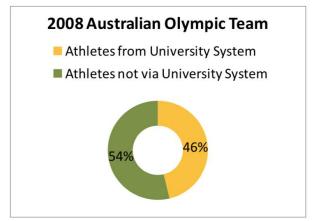
# SPORTING ENGAGEMENT POSITIVELY RELATED TO MEASURES EXTERNAL TO SPORT

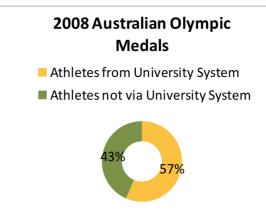
cf. AFPL 2014

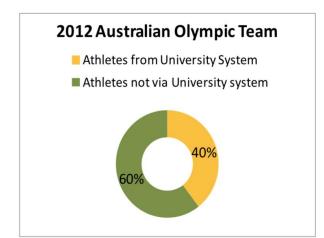


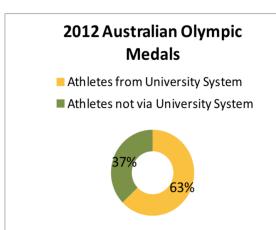
#### Performance of studentathletes at Olympic Games











### Process – (Long Term) Athletic Development

(for the individual athlete)

"The dominant direction of athletes' development depends on how effectively they make career decisions and cope with major transitions in sport and life."

cf. R.J. Schinke 2017



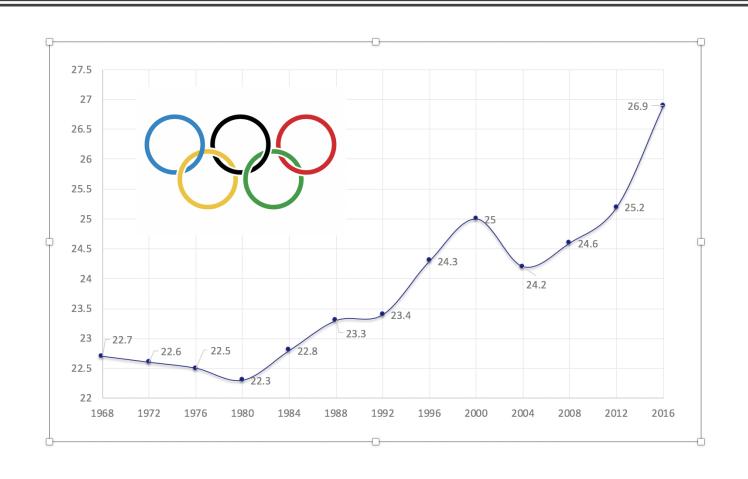


## **75-90%**

of young talented athletes drop out of sport within 5 years after the beginning of performance-oriented training

cf. Enokson 2011

## Average age of Olympic athletes









#### Sport School development Luxembourg – Dual Career

- Support students in their dual career at secondary school
- Support and guide students in planning their dual careers after high school
- Sensitize and inform the main actors in the students' environment





#### Core objective

"Our students use their life skills for a successful school and sports career in which they are optimally supported by their environment."



#### **Objective 1**

Our students understand their role as young talented athletes and students in their dual careers



#### **Objective 2**

Our students use their limited time effectively and sensibly



#### **Objective 3**

Our students can use all available support measures in a meaningful way



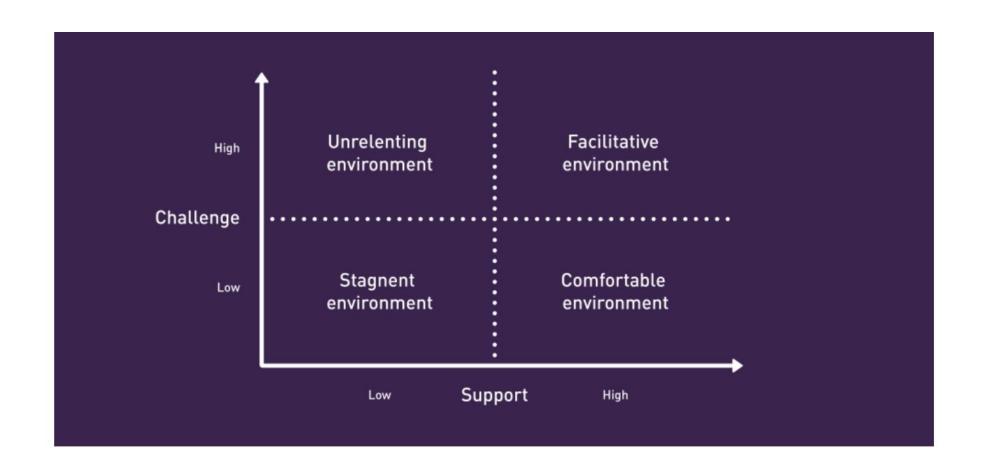
#### **Objective 4**

Important life skills for a successful combination of school and sport have been learned



#### **Objective 5**

The environment of our students is aware of the double charge and supports them in this optimal way



# The right amount of support?

"Don't bet everything on your health, take control of your life and educate yourself. Learn and believe that education is also a way to become a better, more complete athlete."

Vincent Kompany, after graduating from his MBA

Captain of Manchester City and the Belgian National Football Team





# THANK YOU